

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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| Applicants:  | Akinobu Sato, et al.                                     |
| Serial No.:  | 10/573,942   |
| Filing Date: | March 29, 2006   |
| Title:       | Solid surface smoothing<br>method and apparatus therefor |
| Conf. No.    | 5411   |

Examiner: Michael A. Band

Art Unit: 1795

October 18, 2010  
Fremont, California

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR § 1.56, the Applicants respectfully disclose the following:

US patent application publication no. 2004/0086752; published May 6, 2004; Matsukawa et al.; filed Oct 24, 2003.

This publication was cited in an Office Action mailed March 10, 2010 for pending application no. 11/920,362 filed December 21, 2007 by Akinobu Sato et al.

This U.S. patent application claims priority of JP application no. 2001-192217 filed Jun 26, 2001. This Japanese application is also claimed for priority by JP patent application publication no. 2003-86865, published Mar 20, 2003, which was disclosed previously in an Information Disclosure Statement for this application submitted on Sep 6, 2007.

Payment of the \$180 fee required under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) and as set forth in §1.17(p) by charge to a credit card is being authorized concurrently with the submission of this disclosure.

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initial the cited reference shown on the enclosed substitute form PTO-1449 and that the reference be made of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DL' or 'DN' with a stylized flourish.

David N. Lathrop  
Reg. No. 34,655  
No. 827  
39120 Argonaut Way  
Fremont, CA 94538  
Telephone: (510) 713-0991  
Facsimile: (510) 474-1643

Enc. Substitute form PTO-1449